

Homer Central Schools

Summary of Action for 2006-2007



Vision:

The Homer Central School District shall be an institution that provides a challenging and rewarding educational opportunity for the children of its district to become productive citizens in tomorrow's world. Instruction will be conducted in a manner to foster PRIDE among students and faculty. We will strive to incorporate modern technological advancements in instruction as well as administration of the district and to make financial resources available to maintain and improve buildings and grounds, which showcases the community's pride. We are committed to engage the public through communication to ensure that the needs of the community are being met.



In the district's quest to be the best, we are committed to the following concepts:

Instructional Goal	Evidence of Meeting the goal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue to improve literacy skills at all levels, as literacy is the fundamental building block of all education. 	<p>General improvement in ELA assessment results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -K-3 PM Benchmarks -4-8 ELA Assessments -Accelerated Reader...Library Circulation numbers; public library circulation numbers; running records data. -Adjustment of curriculum; community of readers; grade levels working closer together; between grade level staff working closer together -Continued staff development -Consensus with planning -tools for children <p>Board Meeting Report September 25, 2007</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue to include social skill development as a vital component of a student's overall education, and safety (including bully reduction strategies). 	<p>Increased involvement on behalf of both staff and students to support reduction of bullying...</p> <p>Character Education Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ES & IN- lunch bunch groups/ coaching kids on how to react... HT- Teachers doing book chats with students on the topic Boys & Girls club. Studio 58, selection of music. JH- Positive reward for finding students doing well. HS- 3 nominees for Cortland County Youth of the Year.. HS- Book chat "mean girls book". HS- two student groups desired to be design for treating students well... <p>Continued Staff Development</p> <p>Number of office referrals, violence data down, VADIR report...</p> <p>Board Meeting Report October 23,2007</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop a written individual plan for success for any student that does not achieve District and State standards. 	<p>Increased support staff to provide help with this goal (Addition of a social worker)</p> <p>The way plans are written are through; MDT meetings. 504 plans, IEP, building plans, and RTI plans.</p> <p>Non-spec education support...far greater opportunities for differentiated instruction</p> <p>Plans for children in need are written for between 30 to 40 % of our students</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue to improve efforts to ensure that a student entering ninth grade is prepared to be successful in High School. 	<p>Greater communication between 8th and 9th grade staff, students and parents... HS Guidance Counselor... new hire of SS worker, development of 9th grade team...</p> <p>JH – Grade to grade transition meetings have improved student achievement. JH - By mandating 10th period for students who need academic help, we are seeing decreasing numbers of failures. IN – “Kids to College” program teaching study skills and management skills using a planner.</p> <p>Issues to continue to look at; -Teach study skills district wide with consistency. -How many freshmen never took a regents exam? -Data variation between students who entered 9th grade from Homer 8th grade vs. students who are new to the district... transient impact.</p> <p>Board Meeting Report November 27, 2007</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve the high school graduation rate to 90% by 2010 we will study the reasons that students are not successfully graduating 	<p>Increased HS retention of students in school (decreased dropout rate)</p> <p>Ninth Grade Team</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To offer the widest breadth of high quality programs that can be financially sustained. 	<p>See attached</p>

Finances:	
The Board of Education will continue to explore cost sharing opportunities with OCM BOCES, other educational organizations or municipal entities under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools. A focus of real need is to consolidate transportation facilities.	<p>Additional Shared services with BOCES (Carrier service, alternative HS, TC3 HS option)</p> <p>Discussions with Town and Village on shared transportation facility.</p>
The Board of Education will explore consolidation of schools.	The offer is still out there.
The Board of Education will continue to work with Statewide groups to bring about more equitable State funding of our school	With the current success with Governor Spitzer, we need to refocus on what schools will need to do for the additional aid.
The Board of Education will continue to encourage and support alternative revenue sources.	<p>Full Report</p> <p>Board Meeting Report September 25,2007</p>

Facilities:	
The Board of Education will present a project to the voters in 2006-2007.	Voters passed the March Referendum.

Communications:	
The Board of Education will improve communication among parents, school personnel, students, and the community to further educational achievement among its students as recommended by the Communication Committee.	<p>No committee recommendations for 2006-07</p> <p>Project vote results indicate a positive PR campaign for the Capital Vote.</p>
The Board of Education will continue to monitor the development and expansion of programs that facilitate positive relations in the community.	<p>Website</p> <p>2007 Capital Construction Vote</p> <p>2007 General Fund Budget Vote</p> <p>Living History Club</p> <p>Visiting Chinese Teacher</p>
The Board of Education will develop a comprehensive, on-going marketing/public relations program administered by a trained professional.	Not accomplished
The Board of Education will provide professional staff development opportunities that train and counsel district personnel on effective ways of communicating with our community.	See attached list for staff development.